

ZAKKARIJA MICALLEF

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SUMMARY

Backend engineer with 3+ years building scalable Java/Spring systems at an API-first bare-metal cloud provider. Led multi-month feature implementations while coordinating cross-functional teams.

SKILLS

Languages: Java, Python, C, SQL, JavaScript

Technologies: Spring Boot, MongoDB, AWS

Tools: Git, Linux, Maven, Docker, ELK stack, RabbitMQ

EXPERIENCE

PhoenixNAP (CCBill)

(full-time, part-time during MSc) 2021–Present

Software Engineer

Malta

- Technical lead for 3 major platform features (RAID support, custom OS provisioning, cloud-init deployment) each spanning 3-6 month cycles: coordinated work across 5-person developer team, served as primary point of contact between UI, Architecture, and QA teams with final approval on feature specifications
- Independently designed and built internal server provisioning tool, integrating complex authentication and multi-database management which reduced developer setup time from 10 minutes to under 1 minute
- Served as primary onboarding resource for multiple new engineers, guiding them through development setup, codebase architecture, and team workflows, enabling them to contribute to production code within the first 2 sprints.

CCBill

(part-time during studies, full-time summers) 2018 – 2021

Software Engineer Intern

Malta

- Full-stack development on an internal employee management platform: owned features from UI design through implementation and deployment. Key contributions: introduced frontend testing framework, document parsing features, dashboard analytics, and CI/CD pipeline improvements.

EDUCATION

University of Amsterdam & VU Amsterdam

2023 – 2025

MSc Computer Science

Amsterdam

- Systems for Large-Scale Applications Track covering High Performance Computing, Parallel Programming, Distributed Systems fundamentals and other advanced coursework such as Cryptographic Engineering
- Dissertation: Developed real-world industrial anomaly detection pipeline for CNC machines using MLflow/Kubeflow, automating model training through deployment (Grade: 8.5/10)

University of Malta

2018 – 2021

BSc IT (Hons) in Artificial Intelligence

Malta

- Dissertation: Built computer vision system combining object detection with visual saliency analysis to predict customer attention, achieving 0.66 correlation coefficient with human eye-tracking data (Grade: A)

CERTIFICATIONS & AWARDS

- **AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner** – Amazon Web Services, 2025
- **Modern Threat Hunting Training** – Orangecon NL, 2025
- **Malta National Cyber Security Challenge** – Finalist, 2021
- **Malta AI Hackathon** – 3rd Place, 2019

LANGUAGES

Maltese (Native) · English (Fluent) · Moroccan Arabic (Conversational)